

REMARKS

The objections, rejections and comments of the Examiner set forth in the Office Action dated March 24, 2003 have been carefully reviewed by the Applicants. Claims 1-18 are currently pending, with Claims 1, 4-8, 10-13, and 16 being rejected. Claims 2, 3, 9, 14, 15, 17, and 18 are objected to.

Claims 1, 7, 8, 11, and 13 are currently rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sharp (JP 2001126293). In response, independent Claims 1, 7, and 11 have been amended to patentably distinguish the present claimed invention from Sharp, and to conform to the requirements for allowability set forth by the Examiner. Specifically, independent Claims 1, 7, and 11 have been amended to include first and second feedback resistors that are neither taught nor suggested by Sharp, as pointed out by the Examiner in the discussion of allowable subject matter.

Claims 4-6, 10, 12, and 16 are currently rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sharp (JP 2001126293). Claims 4-6, 10, 12, and 16 have been amended to patentably distinguish the present claimed invention by amendment of

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Independent Claims 1, 10, and 11. Specifically, independent Claims 1, 10, and 11 have been amended to include first and second feedback resistors that are neither taught nor suggested by Sharp, as pointed out by the Examiner in the discussion of allowable subject matter.

Claims 2, 3, 9, 14, 15, 17, and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, independent Claims 1, 10, and 11 have been rewritten, and Claims 2, 14, and 17 have been cancelled.

Independent Claim 1 has been rewritten to meet the requirements for allowability set forth by the Examiner for Claim 2 by combining all of the limitations of Claims 1 and 2. The Applicants submit that dependent Claims 3-6, 8, and 9 are also now in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 10 has been rewritten to meet the requirements for allowability set forth by the Examiner for Claim 17 by combining all of the limitations of Claims 10 and 17. The

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Applicants submit that dependent Claims 18 is also now in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 11 has been rewritten to meet the requirements for allowability set forth by the Examiner for Claim 14 by combining all of the limitations of Claims 11 and 14. The Applicants submit that dependent Claims 12, 13, and 16 are also now in condition for allowance.

In summary, Applicant assert that Claims 1, 3-13, 15-16, and 18 are in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit such action by the Examiner.

Please direct all correspondence in the above captioned case to the address given below, and charge any additional fees or apply any credits to our PTO deposit account number: 23-0085.

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Respectfully submitted,

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP

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Mehlin Dean Matthews

Registration Number: 46,127

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP

Two North Market Street

Third Floor

San Jose, CA 95113

408-938-9060

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